



Los Angeles County
Sheriff's Department
Sheriff's Headquarters Bureau

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Leroy D. Baca, Sheriff

Press Release

**LOS ANGELES COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL
HONORED FOR HEROIC DEEDS AT LIFESAVING AWARDS CEREMONY**

On July 23, 2013, the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department (LASD) formally recognized 32 of their personnel for their heroic actions. Each were presented with the Department's Lifesaving Award, which is given to employees or Reserve members of the Department whose actions result in the saving or preservation of a human life that otherwise would have been lost without the employee's direct involvement.

In addition, Sheriff Baca awarded two Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Star Scrolls to two civilian heroes: Mr. Gregory Lindaman, who saved the life of LASD Captain Carrie Stuart, assigned to the Pitchess Detention Center, South Facility; and Explorer Nicholas Hicks, who assisted two deputies in extracting a man trapped underneath a vehicle.

DEPUTY MATTHEW C. SCHWABE
DEPUTY NICHOLAS W. ZABOKRTSKY
Marina del Rey Station

On the afternoon of March 31, 2012, Deputies Matthew Schwabe and Nicholas Zabokrtsky received an emergent call regarding a 73-year-old woman who had collapsed at a local restaurant in Marina del Rey.

When they arrived, Deputies Schwabe and Zabokrtsky were directed to the dining area and saw a woman lying on the floor unconscious. She was not breathing and did not have a pulse. Deputy Schwabe quickly deployed an automated external defibrillator while Deputy Zabokrtsky performed chest compressions. After two full cycles of CPR, they administered a shock and continued CPR. After they administered a second shock, Fire Department personnel arrived and placed the victim on a gurney while the deputies continued their lifesaving efforts.

The woman was transported to a local hospital. Three hours after her rescue, the woman was awake and talking with doctors. The emergency room doctor said there was no doubt the actions of Deputies Schwabe and Zabokrtsky saved the victim's life. He commented that less than 5 percent of full cardiac arrest patients survive.



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DEPUTY RAYMUNDO T. WILSON
RESERVE DEPUTY WALTER R. ANDREW
EXPLORER NICHOLAS HICKS
Palmdale Station

On March 21, 2012, Palmdale Station received a call regarding a man trapped underneath a vehicle that had fallen off a jack. Deputy Raymundo Wilson and his ride-along, Palmdale Explorer Nicholas Hicks, arrived at the location at the same time as Reserve Deputy Walter Andrew.

The trio rushed into the open garage and located the victim, who was pinned under the engine block of a vehicle that had its front tires removed. They saw the man was semiconscious and struggling to breathe. Without hesitation, Deputy Wilson and Reserve Deputy Andrew took hold of the front bumper and lifted the vehicle with all the strength they could muster while Explorer Hicks repositioned the fallen jack. They immediately used the jack to lift the car up high enough for them to pull the victim from underneath the car.

The victim was transported to a hospital and treated in the emergency room. According to the attending physician, the man received extensive injuries and would have suffocated had it not been for the trios' quick actions.

DEPUTY JOSEPH S. CHAVEZ
Parks Bureau

On May 27, 2012, Deputy Joseph Chavez was on an all-terrain vehicle (ATV) patrol at Bonelli Park in San Dimas when he and his partner observed Los Angeles County lifeguards attending to a child with a head injury. When the deputies stopped to offer their assistance, they were approached by a female adult screaming that her child was not breathing. Deputy Chavez rushed over to the infant and saw that she was turning blue and not breathing. Applying infant CPR protocols, Deputy Chavez swept the infant's mouth to clear any debris and then applied gentle back thrusts. He managed to dislodge a piece of food from her airway and she began to breathe.

Fire Department personnel arrived and the infant was placed on oxygen and subsequently transported to a local hospital, where she was reported to be doing well.



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Deputy Chavez' quick response to this incident made the difference between life and death, or a child going through life with irreversible brain damage.

RESERVE CHIEF MICHAEL R. LEUM
RESERVE COMMANDER JANET K. HENDERSON
Crescenta Valley Station, Montrose Search and Rescue Team

On June 29, 2012, Reserve Chief Michael Leum and Reserve Commander Janet Henderson were walking in a river searching for a missing person in the Stonyvale picnic area of the Angeles National Forest when they noticed a family playing in the water about 50 yards upriver. Reserve Henderson was stunned to see a toddler lying face down in the water near the family and yelled out for them to get their baby.

Reserves Leum and Henderson immediately ran upstream as the mother grabbed the lifeless 18-month-old girl from the water. The mother handed Reserve Leum the baby girl, who had already turned blue and was not breathing. Reserve Leum held the baby face down on his forearm and cautiously delivered back blows appropriate for a toddler. The baby coughed up a large amount of water and began breathing with some difficulty.

Reserve Henderson, also an emergency room nurse, took over the lifesaving efforts by administering oxygen and continually monitoring the baby's vital signs. The baby was subsequently airlifted to an area hospital for emergency medical treatment. She was released from the hospital the next day in good condition.

DEPUTY MICHAEL GOMEZ
Carson Station

On August 13, 2012, Deputy Michael Gomez responded to a call indicating that a 1-year-old child had hit her head while at home in the city of Carson and was unconscious and possibly not breathing.

When Deputy Gomez arrived at the house, he saw a baby lying on the floor not breathing. The baby was soaking wet, blue in the face, unresponsive, and had no pulse. He immediately began to administer cardiopulmonary resuscitation, continuing until paramedics arrived and took over.



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Deputy Gomez, with the assistance of additional Carson Station personnel, immediately coordinated the transportation of the baby to a local hospital. Deputy Gomez, along with paramedics, escorted the baby to the pediatric emergency room, where moments later he was informed by the emergency room staff that the baby was in stable condition. They and the Fire Captain supervising the paramedics verified that had Deputy Gomez not acted as swiftly as he did, the baby would not have survived.

DEPUTY GREGORY A. EMERSON
DEPUTY VENUS S. FELIX
DEPUTY EVELIA MANRIQUEZ
DEPUTY ROSA M. PEREZ
DEPUTY RICARDO VEGA
Pico Rivera Station

On April 22, 2012, Deputies Emerson, Felix, Manriquez, Perez and Vega were dispatched to the Rio Hondo Bridge in Montebello regarding a man who was hanging from the bridge and possibly dead.

Upon their arrival, they observed two citizens attempting to pull the victim up by his neck. The victim was suspended approximately 8 feet by an electrical cord that was tied around his neck and affixed to the bridge. The victim was nonresponsive and appeared lifeless.

Deputies Vega, Manriquez and Emerson collectively pulled the victim up and over the guard rail and laid him on the bridge. He was not breathing and had no pulse. As Deputies Vega and Felix struggled to untie the cord, Deputy Perez began CPR. Unable to untie the makeshift noose, Deputy Felix used her knife to cut the cord, which instantly cleared the victim's airway. Deputy Perez continued chest compressions till they began to see signs of life.



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DEPUTY TERA L. FRUDAKIS
DEPUTY CHRISTOPHER Q. JACKSON
Court Services West Bureau

On the morning of October 26, 2012, Deputies Tera Frudakis and Christopher Jackson were monitoring an inmate in an interview room at the Airport Court. Several clerks assigned to this court were across the hall in another room watching a training video when one of them appeared to become ill and suddenly lost consciousness as she sat in her chair. Another clerk ran across the hall to ask Deputies Frudakis and Jackson for help.

Deputy Frudakis quickly ran to the room while calling paramedics as Deputy Jackson secured the inmate. Deputy Frudakis found the victim slumped in her chair and quickly discovered she was not breathing and had no heartbeat.

At this time, Deputy Jackson arrived and he immediately began mouth-to-mouth breathing while Deputy Frudakis performed chest compressions. They continued CPR for approximately seven minutes, until the arrival of paramedics. The paramedics immediately used a defibrillator and after a few moments, the victim's heartbeat resumed. The victim was transported to a hospital, where she was listed in stable condition, with no significant brain damage.

DEPUTY DANIEL HOYOS
DEPUTY YVETTE R. STEWART
Compton Station

On November 18, 2012, Deputies Daniel Hoyos and Yvette Stewart were driving westbound on Alondra Boulevard in the city of Compton when they saw approximately six pit bull dogs huddled together in the street. As they neared the dogs, they saw a human arm come out of the center of the huddle and heard cries for help.

Deputy Hoyos drove up to the dogs and sounded his air horn and siren to scare them away. The tactic worked and the dogs ran into an open gate. The deputies moved the traumatized victim, a small boy, out of the street, assessed his injuries, and immediately requested paramedics.



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The child suffered numerous bite wounds and lacerations to his arms and legs. He was transported via ambulance to a nearby hospital. Deputies Hoyos and Stewart notified Animal Control, identified the owners, and remained until Animal Control arrived and took possession of the dogs.

The Fire Captain who oversaw treatment of the victim said the boy suffered several deep puncture wounds and was very lucky the deputies arrived when they did, adding that the boy could have been killed or seriously maimed if it were not for their immediate response.

SERGEANT MICHAEL S. BRANDRIFF
RESERVE SERGEANT DUANE S. CAMERON
Temple Station

On the morning of November 27, 2012, Sergeant Michael Brandriff and Reserve Sergeant Duane Cameron were off-duty and on a camping trip in Panamint Valley, California, when they heard a radio broadcast of a rollover traffic accident. They saw a dust cloud in the air approximately 10 miles from their location and quickly gathered their first aid equipment and responded to the crash site.

When they arrived, Sergeant Brandriff and Reserve Sergeant Cameron discovered an overturned pickup truck with an elderly driver trapped inside. The driver was bleeding heavily from multiple injuries. They cut the driver's left shirt sleeve away, revealing a compound fracture. Reserve Sergeant Cameron used his hands to close the victim's wound and applied direct pressure to the victim's arm to reduce the bleeding as Sergeant Brandriff located materials for a pressure dressing.

Pressure on the victim's wound was applied for over 40 minutes, until a San Bernardino County Sheriff's deputy and a lone paramedic from the city of Trona, California arrived on the scene.

Sergeant Brandriff and Reserve Sergeant Cameron assisted the paramedic in extricating the driver from the vehicle. A life flight helicopter arrived and the victim was transported to a local hospital, where he successfully underwent surgery and survived his injuries.



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The on-scene paramedic and San Bernardino County Sheriff's deputy credit Cameron and Brandriff with saving the victim's life. They were certain the man would have perished due to blood loss had it not been for their intervention.

SERGEANT JOSEPH C. HAERTSCH

Parks Bureau

On March 3, 2013, Sergeant Joseph Haertsch was at a restaurant in Brandon, Florida, representing the Department at an annual mounted enforcement seminar, when he observed a 23-month-old child choking. Not only did the child appear to be in great distress, the parents seemed paralyzed by what was occurring and failed to take action.

Realizing the child's life was at stake, Sergeant Haertsch leapt from his seat and immediately took the appropriate steps to dislodge the obstruction in the child's airway. The child began to breathe normally and the family was overwhelmed with joy.

The professionalism displayed by Sergeant Haertsch was truly commendable and impacted the child's family and other law enforcement members attending the seminar.

DEPUTY MICHAEL L. WINTER

Crescenta Valley Station

On April 5, 2013, Deputy Michael Winter and his partner responded to a 911 call of a 1-year-old child choking at home in the city of La Canada Flintridge. The child's father was so distraught, he had difficulty answering simple questions and was unable to speak with Fire Department dispatch personnel or follow their instructions for administering CPR.

Deputy Winter and his partner arrived on scene less than one minute later and found the child lying on the floor, choking and nonresponsive. The child's face was red from lack of oxygen. Deputy Winter checked the boy's airway and cleared his mouth of possible obstructions, but he was still unresponsive. Deputy Winter then turned the child onto his stomach and carefully struck him several times between the shoulder blades, which cleared the obstruction from the child's airway and he immediately began to cry. The child was transported to an area hospital and made a full recovery.



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DEPUTY AARON G. BORITS-ROOT
DEPUTY LOHNNIE W. DAY
DEPUTY COLLIN J. REDDY
Palmdale Station

On February 23, 2013, a woman called Palmdale Station and stated her neighbor was being attacked by a dog. Deputies Lohnnie Day, Collin Reddy and Aaron Borits-Root responded to the residence, where they found a man lying face down on his front porch and a large pit bull dog viciously mauling him.

As the deputies approached, they saw the dog was violently biting the victim's arm and could see he had numerous severe injuries and was unable to defend himself. Deputies Reddy and Day attempted to distract the dog, but the dog continued its attack. They knew if they did not immediately intervene, the victim could possibly die from his injuries.

Deputies Reddy and Day positioned themselves so they had a clear and unobstructed shot and a safe backdrop. Deputy Day fired one round and Deputy Reddy fired two rounds that appeared to strike the dog in the torso. Unperturbed, the dog turned its attention to the deputies and began moving toward them when Deputy Reddy fired an additional round into the dog's head, ending the vicious attack.

Deputies Day and Borits-Root immediately rendered first aid by applying direct pressure to the worst of the victim's wounds. He was transported to the hospital, where he was rushed into surgery.

An attending nurse stated the victim sustained numerous severe injuries and lost over seven units of blood as a result of the bites. If the attack had not been stopped and medical aid not immediately rendered, the victim would have died from his injuries.

DEPUTY ARNULFO AGUIRRE
DEPUTY ANTHONY M. LEDESMA
Temple Station

On November 18, 2012, Deputies Arnulfo Aguirre and Anthony Ledesma responded to the Whittier Narrows Recreation area regarding a baby not breathing call. The deputies were the first units to arrive at the scene, and they quickly determined the baby was not breathing and did not have a pulse.



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Deputy Aguirre quickly placed the baby on the trunk of his patrol vehicle and began performing chest compressions while Deputy Ledesma performed artificial respiration. They administered CPR until the Fire Department arrived on scene and began treating the baby.

Deputies from Temple Station guided the responding ambulance to the exact location of the baby, while others blocked major intersections so the transporting ambulance would arrive at the hospital without delay.

The baby was rushed into the emergency room and the medical staff successfully revived the baby. Sadly, it was determined the baby was a victim of child abuse and suffered major injuries. Based on the professional opinion of the intensive care doctor, the baby survived due to the quick application of CPR and rapid response to the hospital.

DEPUTY CLAUDIA CASTRO
DEPUTY ARTURO GABRIEL
Norwalk Station

On February 2, 2013, Norwalk Station received a 911 call of a 2-year-old child who accidentally fell into a nearly empty pool. The child suffered head trauma and was unconscious and not breathing when family members found him lying at the bottom of the pool.

Deputy Arturo Gabriel was the first to arrive, followed almost immediately by Deputy Claudia Castro. After quickly assessing the child's condition, they immediately began to administer CPR. Once Fire Department personnel arrived, they took over the deputies' lifesaving efforts.

A plan was quickly formulated to provide the safest and most efficient route for the ambulance to transport the child to a local hospital. Due to the collective efforts of all involved personnel, the child made it to the hospital, regained a pulse, and made a full recovery.

The emergency room doctor stated that the efforts made by Deputies Castro and Gabriel were instrumental in saving the child's life.



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DEPUTY MICHAEL CALDERON JR.
DEPUTY GEORGE MADRID
Pico Rivera Station

On May 8, 2013, Deputies Michael Calderon and George Madrid responded to an apartment complex fire on Whittier Boulevard in the city of Pico Rivera. When they arrived at the scene, Deputies Calderon and Madrid saw thick black smoke coming from the front unit and residents running for their lives. The deputies were making their way through the crowd when one of the residents told them a person was still inside one of the apartments.

Despite the danger from the smoke and flames, Deputies Calderon and Madrid entered the apartment. As they searched, they felt intense heat and smoke burning their lungs. Although they were partially blinded by the thick smoke, they found an unconscious man lying on a bed in a corner of the room. They quickly grabbed him and carried him out to safety.

The man was transported to a local hospital in serious but stable condition. Deputies Calderon and Madrid were also treated for smoke inhalation by responding Fire Department personnel. Had they not entered the burning building and found the unconscious man, he would have perished in the fire.

DEPUTY JOHN E. HAYNES
DEPUTY DONALD R. MOORE
Carson Station

On February 28, 2011, Deputies John Haynes and Donald Moore responded to a vicious dog call that indicated a pit bull was biting a child at a residence in the city of Carson. Upon their arrival, Deputies Haynes and Moore could hear screaming coming from inside the home. They rushed in and saw two men trying to restrain a large pit bull dog that was attacking a young girl. The pit bull had locked its teeth onto the girl's arm and was violently shaking its head back and forth as she screamed in agony.

Fearing the girl might be killed if they did not react quickly, Deputies Haynes and Moore ordered the two men to get behind them. Deputy Haynes then shielded the young girl's face with his hand as he simultaneously fired one round into the dog's head. The vicious dog was killed, and the girl was able to extract her arm from its mouth.



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The direct intervention and decisive actions of Deputies Haynes and Moore on that day saved the life of a young girl.

GREGORY LINDAMAN

On the evening of December 7, 2012, Captain Carrie Stuart, assigned to the Pitchess Detention Center, South Facility, was driving southbound on San Francisquito Canyon Road in the Santa Clarita Valley area when she collided head-on with another vehicle. Captain Stuart's vehicle burst into flames as the other vehicle rolled onto its side.

Mr. Gregory Lindaman was the first person on the scene of this horrific accident. He rushed to Captain Stuart's car, now fully engulfed in flames, and tried to open the driver's side door without success. He then ran to his car to retrieve a blanket, approached the passenger side of her vehicle, reached in with the blanket, pulled her out and dragged her over 100 yards to safety. Mr. Lindaman then ran to the other vehicle involved in the collision, punched out the driver's side window, pulled the victim out, and dragged him to safety as well.

Both drivers were transported to the hospital. Captain Stuart remained in critical condition for some time but survived the accident due to Mr. Lindaman's incredible bravery.